GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3981
ANSWERED ON:09.04.2003
VISIT OF GERMAN PRESIDENT
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY;PUTTASWAMY GOWDA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the President of Federal Republic of Germany visited India recently and held wide ranging discussions of various subjects;

(b) if so, the details of the deliberations held and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether stress was laid on the steps to promote economic exchanges with India and cooperation in the field of Science and Technology; and

(d) if so, the details of the suggestions made by the two Governments in this matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) & (b) Dr. Johannes Rau, President of the Federal Republic of Germany paid a State visit to India from 2-7 March, 2003 and held substantive discussions with Rashtrapatiji and Prime Minister on bilateral relations and on regional and global issues of mutual concern.

(c) & (d) Both countries agreed to continue their efforts at building a strategic partnership focusing on improved trade and investment, enhanced cooperation in science and technology and greater educational exchanges including joint research activities. A Memorandum of Understanding on an Indo-German Institute for Advanced Technology, to be set up in Visakhapatnam, was signed. Sectors such as space and IT were identified for greater focus in the future.